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AUTHOR	Greene, Maxine
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ABSTRACT

The essays in this book are the author's attempt to connect her own seeking with the strivings of other teachers and teacher educators who are tired of a self-centered, technocratic existence and who want to enhance their understanding of diversity. The essays concentrate on imagination as a means through which to assemble a coherent world, because imagination is what makes empathy possible and what allows people to enter others' worlds (e.g., through poetry or music). Moving from an account of school restructuring to a rendering of the shapes of literacy, the book examines the processes of human questioning and resistance to meaninglessness. Part 1, "Creating Possibilities," includes: (1) "Seeking Contexts"; (2) "Imagination, Breakthroughs, and the Unexpected"; (3) "Imagination, Community, and the School"; (4) "Discovering a Pedagogy"; (5) "Social Vision and the Dance of Life"; and (6) "The Shapes of Childhood Recalled." Part 2, "Illuminations and Epiphanies," includes: (7) "The Continuing Search for Curriculum"; (8) "Writing To Learn"; (9) "Teaching for Openings"; (10) "Art and Imagination"; and (11) "Texts and Margins." Part 3, "Community in the Making," includes: (12) "The Passions of Pluralism"; (13) "Standards, Common Learnings, and Diversity"; and (14) "Multiple Voices and Multiple Realities." (SM)

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